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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Mapleson *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/803,778

Filed: March 12, 2001

Atty Dkt: 1324.024A


Group Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: Zeman, R.

Title: METHOD OF REMOVING  
ENDOTOXIN FROM VACCINES

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 28, 2003.

  
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Date of Signature: April 28, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed January 28, 2003 in connection with the above-captioned patent application, which set a three-month period for reply. Response is due, therefore, by April 28, 2003; this paper is timely filed.

AMENDMENT

In the claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of removing bacterial endotoxin from a pharmaceutical process solution containing an amphiphilic pharmaceutical drug or vaccine substance which method comprises treating the solution with an effective concentration of ionic surfactant ~~effective~~ to dissociate the endotoxin from the amphiphilic pharmaceutical drug or vaccine substance in the solution, and then filtering the solution through a molecular weight cut-off filter having a pore size effective to retain the amphiphilic pharmaceutical drug or vaccine substance but allow the dissociated bacterial endotoxin to pass therethrough.